

REMARKS

The applicants filed an after-final response to a Final Office Action dated January 6, 2005 (Paper No. 15) on March 7, 2005. This response included an Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form requesting a telephonic interview to discuss the issues surrounding the rejections and the applicants' response as detailed in the after-final filing. Subsequently, the requested interview took place between the Examiner and the undersigned, on March 21, 2005. After discussing the arguments provided in the aforementioned after-final response, the Examiner indicated that the final rejection would stand. In view of the foregoing, the applicants now respond as follows.

Claims 1-9, 11-16, 27-28 and 34-51 have been cancelled, and Claims 10, 17-26 and 29-33 have been amended, to place the above-referenced application in condition for allowance. In view of these amendments and the following reasoning for allowance, the applicants hereby respectfully request further examination and reconsideration of the subject application.

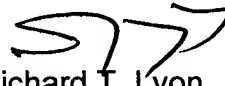
Claims 1-7, 11-13, 27, 28, 34-48 and 50-51 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Cureton et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0116200). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cureton in view of Kacyra et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,473,079. Claim 9 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cureton in view of Gelphman, U.S. Patent No. 6,556,783. Claim 14 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cureton in view of Cox et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,363,305. Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cureton in view of Cox, and in further view of Davison et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,516,099. And finally, Claims 10, 17-26 and 29-33 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner stated that these last claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form

including all of the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims.

While no admission is made that the rejected claims are actually anticipated or are made obvious by the cited references, the applicants have chosen to amend the claims as suggested in the Office Action to further the prosecution of the application and expedite its allowance. More particularly, the rejected and objected to Claims 1-9, 11-16, 27-28 and 34-51 have been cancelled, and Claims 10, 17-26 and 29-32 have been rewritten to include all of the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Further, Claims 33 has been made depended from rewritten Claim 32, and so is patentable as it now depends from an allowable claim.

In summary, it is believed that the objected to claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to Claims 10, 17-26 and 29-33 and allowance of these claims at an early date is respectfully requested. It is also noted that the appropriate fees for an extension of time to respond, and fees for additional independent claims, have been included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RT Lyon', written over the printed name.

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